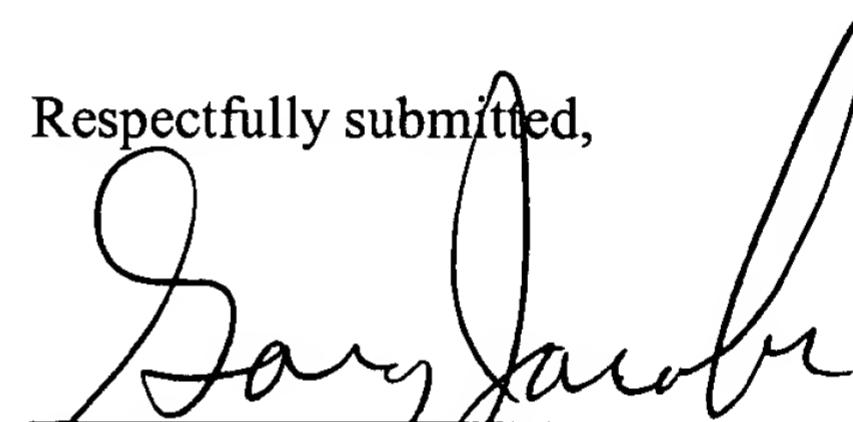


REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, and 13 have been amended to improve their form and to correct minor and typographical errors. As a result, this amendment is needed for proper protection of the invention and would require no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office. Accordingly, this amendment satisfies the criteria for entry of MPEP § 714.16, and such entry is respectfully solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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